



Region 1



**SR. AGENT
FRANK A. REGER**

REGION UPDATE

Sr. Agent Frank A. Reger

As I am writing this article, the summer is over and the hunting season has begun. But no one has bothered to tell Mother Nature as we are having 90 degree days in October! To make matters worse, opening morning of squirrel season we did not even get a cool morning. We actually got the great squirrel hunting weather about two weeks early. The squirrel hunters still came out in large numbers in the morning, but they were nonexistent in the afternoons.

The pistol team recently returned from

New Mexico where we represented the department well. I don't know if we hooked a cloud when we left or if it was just coincidence but we got several afternoons of rain in the desert! It was definitely a blessing for a bunch of guys from Louisiana. The rain helped keep down the dust storms but the thunderstorms brought lots of wind. I think the rain brought the humidity up to a whopping 25%.

I would like to congratulate Sgt. Kenny Balkom on being selected as the Louisiana Enforcement Agent of the Year by the National

Wild Turkey Federation. Kenny works hard finding and documenting bait. His efforts have lead to many citations in the past several years and hopefully changed the habits of those that try to hunt turkeys illegally.

Cadet Michael Dunn has completed his FTO program and is on his own. He is doing well and is a welcomed addition to Region 1A B-shift.

I hope that everyone has a great hunting season. And 'til next time, stay safe.

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Region 1 Continued

2007 NRA National Police Shooting Championships

By Sr. Agent Frank A. Reger

On Sept. 29, 2007 the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Pistol Team left for Albuquerque, New Mexico. Fifteen hours later we arrived in Albuquerque. The four team members, Sgt. James Parish, Sgt. Troy Parker, Sgt. Dane Thomas and I were very excited about the upcoming match. We told stories about last year and about how much we were going to improve this year. We talked about the

different guns, ammo and gear that we had bought or heard about. Everyone had set goals for themselves and hoped to even exceed

those goals.

We got up early the next morning and headed for the range for a day of practice before the matches began. There is

always a small amount of fine tuning you have to do on your sights because of the location of the sun or the different color of the background. We are used to backstops with green grass and green trees behind them but in that part of New Mexico trees are almost nonexistent. We shot our pistols and picked up our competitors packets. Being experienced competitors the nerves were a lot less this year but they were never completely gone. The NRA added a team



Frank Reger shoots from the 15 YD Line

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L to R Troy Parker and Dane Thomas shoot from the 15 YD Line



James Parish with a member of the German team

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2007 NRA National Police Shooting Championships

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match this year that I got really excited about. It was a Stock Semi-auto Team match that let us use our duty pistols and compete as a team.

The NRA National Police Shooting Championships is an international event with over 300 competitors. Law Enforcement Officers from Germany, Canada, Venezuela, Russia and Czechoslovakia were present, along with teams from different municipalities, state and federal agencies from across the United States. There were a total of seventeen competitors from Louisiana and our

team was the largest team from Louisiana.

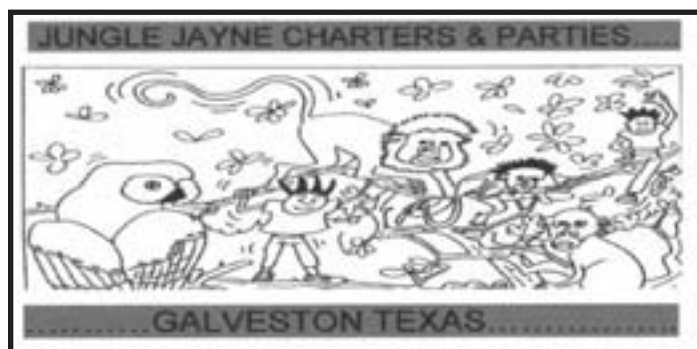
The opening day of competition began with the posting of Colors and the National Anthem. As the first match began 100 competitors shot their first rounds and the thunder of gun fire filled the air. The weather was perfect for shooting, and we began to ready our gear to shoot our first match of the competition. As matches were completed scores were posted in the vendor's hall. There was a constant line of shooters writing down their scores and checking to see if they placed in their class. We com-

peted in individual matches for the first three days. On the last day we competed in team matches.

Members of the pistol team earned three first place finishes, three second place finishes and six third place finishes in individual competition. We also finished second in the four

man team Semi-auto in the Conservation Division. In addition we finished third in the Marksman category in the Stock Semi-auto Four man team and the Revolver four man team. Sgt. Troy Parker and I had the opportunity to do a national inter-

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L to R Dane Thomas, Frank Reger, Troy Parker, MS Game Wardens Jonathan Phippen, Ricky McDaniels, James Parish, and Border Patrol Agent Chris McKay

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2007 NRA National Police Shooting Championships

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view live on NRA News. This was a great opportunity to explain our special brand of Law Enforcement and to promote our Department. I believe that NRA NPSC is an excellent training environment and provides an opportunity to exchange training ideas. We all gathered bags of free literature and talked with representatives from all the major firearms, ammunition and Law Enforcement gear manufacturers.

On the way home everyone was exhausted

from the week of shooting. We knew that we gave 110% and represented the department well. As we began the long drive home we talked about how much we were going to practice and improve over the coming year.

I would like to thank Col. Vidirine and the LWAA for all of their support, without which this opportunity would never be possible. I am always proud to tell other competitors about our department and the support we receive.



Frank Reger shoots the shotgun from the 50 YD Line



James Parish shooting from the 15 YD Line at the 2007 NRA National Police Shooting Championships.

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L to R Dane Thomas, Frank Reger, Troy Parker, and James Parish at the 2007 NRA National Police Shooting Championships.

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